

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL
REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
(W. F. YOUNG, M.B., D.P.H.)

FOR THE YEAR 1937.

J. DODD, PRINTER, AUDLEY.

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

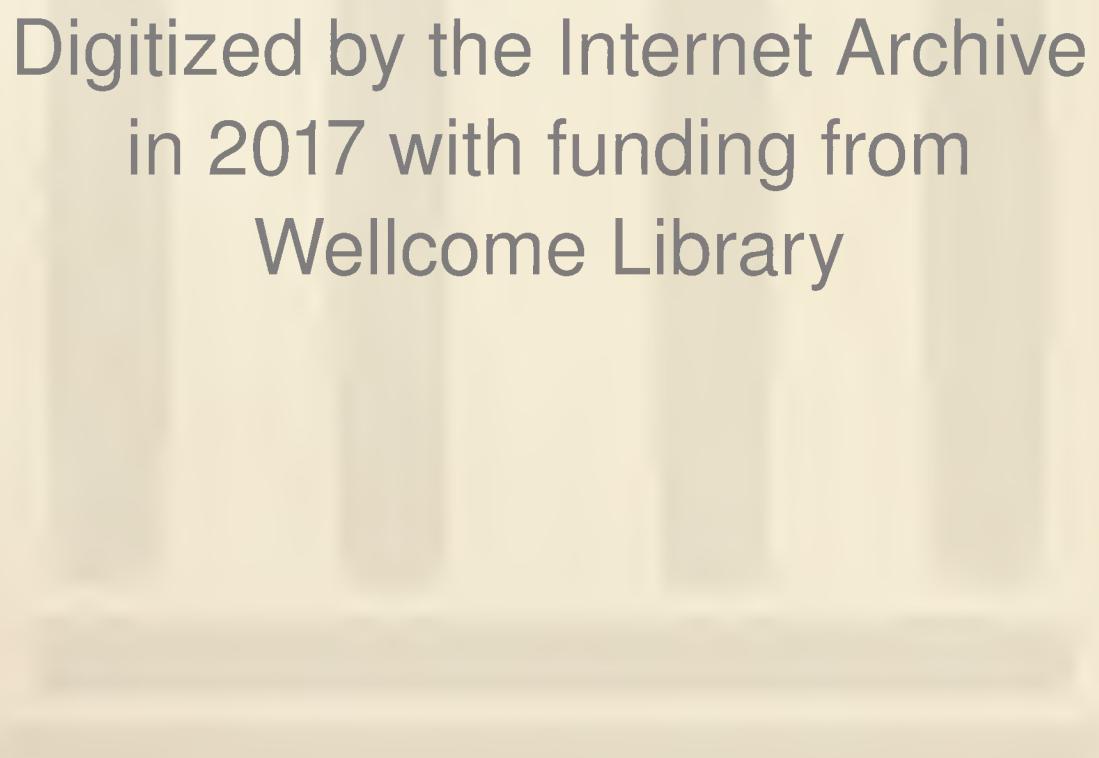


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ANNUAL REPORT

of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PRELIMINARY NOTE.

The Annual Report for 1937 has been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health's Circular No. 1650 of October, 1937. Since it is of the "ordinary" form, and not a "survey" Report, the information given (except in certain instances) is limited to particulars of the alterations and improvements that have been brought about during the year.

In comparison with the figure for 1936, the Birth Rate for the District (13.6) has risen 1.4 per thousand of the resident population. The crude Death Rate of 13.6 shows a rise of 0.8. The Infantile Mortality Rate has fallen from 65.0 in 1936 to 49.8 in 1937; such fluctuation may be expected where comparatively small figures are concerned.

The Table below compares rates for this district with those for England Wales as a whole.

TABLE I.

	1937		
	England	and	Newcastle under- Lyme R.D.
	Wales		
Birth Rate ...	... ...	14.9	... 13.6
Death Rate ...	... ...	12.4	... 13.5 (corrected)
Infantile Mortality Rate ...	58	...	50

With regard to infectious disease, Table 22 on page 34 gives comparisons of the rates of incidence of certain infectious diseases in the district with those for England and Wales as a whole.

The question of isolation hospital accommodation in the District is referred to on page 14.

The incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis has fallen from 0.67 to 0.62 (Table 26); the death rate from the same cause has risen from 0.06 to 0.37 (Table 27).

Continued progress has been made with regard to the provision of water supplies (page 16).

Sewage disposal in the remaining part of Audley Parish and at Madeley received further consideration (page 17).

Removals from the clearance area at Alsager's Bank to the thirty-two new houses at Apedale Avenue took place in October. Five small clearance areas were confirmed by the Minister of Health, and twelve further small areas were the subject of local inquiry in November. Demolition orders in respect of six individual houses were declared during the year.

The year has been one of satisfactory achievement in many directions. The amount of work required from the Department has continued to increase, and with the staff available it has not been found possible to give fully adequate attention to all the requirements of certain Acts and Orders. Extension of the scope of the Department's work in a number of ways is desirable, but under present conditions this is of course not possible.

I may perhaps take this opportunity of offering my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their help and support during the year.

SECTION A.
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF
THE AREA.

Area : 40,015 acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population, 1937 :—16,220.

NOTE.—Throughout the Report rates *for the Whole District* are calculated on the Registrar-General's estimate of the population as at mid-year, 1937, but where rates *by parishes* are given, these (and their sums) are calculated on the populations of the parishes as at April, 1931 (Census). The populations by parishes were supplied by the Registrar-General, due allowance having been made by him for the alteration of the boundaries of the district, and of certain parishes, on 1st April, 1932.

The figures are given in Table 2.

TABLE 2.
REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S ESTIMATE OF POPULATION BY PARISHES
AS AT 1ST APRIL, 1932.

Parish	Population					
Ashley	1,027
Audley	8,535
Balterley	217
Betley	699
Chorlton	361
Keele	444
Madeley	2,823
Maer	625
Mucklestone	470
Tyrley	1,141*
Whitmore	530
TOTAL	16,872	<hr/>

*Includes Cheshire Joint Sanatorium.

No figures as to population by *parishes* are supplied for intercensal years, and there is thus no alternative to using the Census figures. Changes in the populations of parishes since the Census are not likely to have a marked effect at present on the rates given, but differences will appear between the rates for the whole district and the rates for the sums of the parishes, and these will tend to increase.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) according
to Rate Books 4,472

Table 3 shows the distribution of these houses by parishes.

TABLE 3.

Parish					No. of Houses
Ashley	...	...	...	...	315
Audley	...	...	...	...	2,237
Balterley	...	...	...	...	57
Betley	...	...	...	...	193
Chorlton	...	...	...	...	112
Keele	...	...	...	...	145
Madeley	...	...	...	...	743
Maer	...	...	...	...	158
Mucklestone	...	...	...	...	125
Tyrley	...	...	...	...	226
Whitmore	...	...	...	...	161
					—
					4,472

Rateable Value :—£55,949.

Sum represented by a penny rate :—£219.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

These have been detailed in previous Reports, and there is no change to record. Although the main portion of Audley Parish is of an agricultural character, the majority of the inhabitants live in the vicinity of coal-mines. Since all the mines except one in this part of the district have been closed, there continues to be a considerable amount of distress.

No accurate figures as to unemployment for the district as a whole are available.

TABLE 4.
VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the esti- mated resident population :
LIVE BIRTHS ...	... 216	... 103	... 113	13.6*
... Legitimate ...				
... Illegitimate	... 5	... 3	... 2	
Stillbirths	... ...	... 13	... 7	... 6
	Total	M.	F.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births :
Deaths ...	... ...	... 221	... 110	... 111
				Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent popula- tion :—13.6*
				Corrected Death Rate :—13.5*

NOTE.—The corrected Death Rate is obtained by multiplying the crude Death Rate by the factor 0.99. This factor is supplied by the Registrar-General and serves to make the crude Death Rate for the District comparable, from the mortality point of view, with the crude Death Rate for the country as a whole, or with the mortality of any local area, the crude Death Rate of which has been similarly modified with its own factor for the purpose.

*See note on page 8.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's short list) :—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis 0	0	0
No. 30 Other puerperal causes 2	2	8.5
	—	—
TOTAL	2	8.5

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age—

All infants per 1,000 live births	... ... ...	49.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		50.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		0.0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	... ... ...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	... ...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)		0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	... ... ...	29

TABLE 5*

NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS BY PARISHES.

(The Annual *Rates* by Parishes are given in brackets).

Quarter of Year	Ashley	Audley	Balterley	Betley	Chorlton	Keele	Madeley	Maer	Mucklesone	Tyrlay †	Whitmore	Total	Birth Rate
1	1	25	—	4	2	—	7	1	—	5	—	45	10.7
2	5	23	—	1	1	1	12	2	1	5	1	52	12.3
3	—	19	—	3	1	2	9	2	1	4	2	43	10.2
4	4	20	1	2	2	1	7	3	3	5	2	50	11.9
For Whole Year	10 (9.8)	87 (10.2)	1 (4.6)	10 (14.3)	6 (16.7)	4 (9.0)	35 (12.4)	8 (12.8)	5 (10.6)	19 (16.7)	5 (9.4)	190	11.3

*See note on page 8.

†The Cheshire Joint Sanatorium with a population of about 600, is situated in this Parish.

TABLE 6*.

NUMBER OF DEATHS BY PARISHES

(The Annual *Rates* by Parishes are given in brackets).

Quarter of Year	Ashley	Audley	Balterley	Betley	Chorlton	Keele	Madeley	Maer	Mucklesone	Tyrlay †	Whitmore	Total	Death Rate (un- corrected)
1	8	28	5	3	—	1	13	3	2	2	2	67	15.9
2	—	32	—	1	—	3	7	—	2	3	—	48	11.4
3	4	32	1	3	—	3	7	1	—	—	1	52	12.0
4	8	26	—	4	1	4	3	2	1	4	1	54	12.8
For Whole Year	20 (19.6)	118 (13.8)	6 (27.6)	11 (15.5)	1 (2.7)	11 (24.8)	30 (10.6)	6 (9.6)	5 (10.6)	9 (7.9)	4 (7.5)	221	13.1

*See note on page 8.

†See note below Table 2.

TABLE 7*.

INFANTILE MORTALITY NUMBERS BY PARISHES.

(The Annual *Rates* by Parishes are given in brackets).

Quarter of Year	Ashley	Audley	Balsterley	Betley	Chorlton	Keele	Madeley	Maer	Mucklestone	Tyrel	Whitmore	Total	Infantile Death Rate (per 1,000 live births)
1	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	89
2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	28
3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	23
4	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	89
For Whole Year	3 (300)	4 (46)	— (0)	2 (200)	— (0)	— (0)	1 (29)	— (0)	— (0)	1 (53)	— (0)	11 (0)	58

*See note on page 8.

TABLE 9*.

ANNUAL BIRTH RATES BY PARISHES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Year	Ashley	Audley	Balsterley	Betley	Chorlton	Keele	Madeley	Maer	Mucklestone	Tyrel	Whitmore	For Whole District
1933	9	12	—	14	17	11	16	5	15	17	19	12.6
1934	11	10	5	11	19	11	14	11	25	12	8	11.5
1935	11	12	5	6	28	11	17	11	11	14	11	12.6
1936	11	11	1	6	14	16	13	8	6	11	8	10.8
1937	10	10	5	14	17	9	12	13	11	17	9	11.3
Average	10	11	3	10	19	12	14	10	14	14	11	11.8

*See note on page 8.

TABLE IO*.
ANNUAL DEATH RATES BY PARISHES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Year	Ashley	Audley	Balsterley	Betley	Chorlton	Keele	Madeley	Maer	Mucklestone	Tyrley	Whitmore	For Whole District (uncorrected.)
1933	17	12	14	17	19	13	15	10	17	4	9	11.8
1934	11	11	18	21	22	16	13	5	13	5	13	11.7
1935	17	11	9	15	8	13	13	8	19	9	13	12.2
1936	13	11	9	21	8	7	14	21	15	7	11	12.3
1937	20	14	28	15	3	25	11	10	11	8	7	13.1
Average	16	12	16	18	12	15	13	11	15	7	11	12.2

TABLE II*.
ANNUAL INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES BY PARISHES FOR
THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Year	Ashley	Audley	Balsterley	Betley	Chorlton	Keele	Madeley	Maer	Mucklestone	Tyrley	Whitmore	For Whole District
1933	111	71	—	—	167	—	68	—	286	—	100	70
1934	91	34	—	250	—	—	79	143	—	—	—	52
1935	—	60	—	—	—	—	62	—	—	—	167	47
1936	—	64	—	—	200	—	28	200	—	154	500	71
1937	300	46	—	200	—	—	29	—	—	53	—	58
Average	100	55	—	90	73	—	53	69	57	41	153	60

*See note on page 8.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Particulars of these services were detailed in the Annual Report for 1930. Changes consequent on the alteration of boundaries of the District on 1st April, 1932, were detailed in the Annual Report for that year, and no important change has taken place since.
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY. (*See also page 5*).

(a) *Medical.* The Medical Officer of Health is a part-time Officer so far as this Council is concerned, but is engaged whole-time in Public Health work, holding the appointments of Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Inspector to the Staffordshire County Council.

In August, 1936, the County Council published their draft Scheme for Air-Raid Precautions. In this scheme I was appointed Officer-in-charge for the first-aid treatment of casualties in County District No. 3, which comprises this District, together with the Urban Districts of Kidsgrove and Biddulph.

(b) *Others.* Both Sanitary Inspectors are whole-time officers. The Senior Officer, who is in possession of Meat Inspection and Sanitary Certificates, holds the additional offices of Housing Surveyor and Petroleum Officer.

Under the County Council draft Scheme for Air-Raid Precautions, certain duties, chiefly in connection with rescue work and demolition of buildings, were allocated to the Chief Sanitary Inspector in respect of No. 3 District, referred to above.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

Towards the end of the year a Nursing Association was formed to cover the majority of the parishes of Madeley, Betley and Balterley, and a nurse commenced duty early in January, 1938. The formation of this Association filled a need that had been long felt.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The County Council scheme under Section 63 of the Local Government Act, 1929, for the provision of adequate hospital accommodation for the treatment of infectious disease (other than smallpox), within the County was approved by the Ministry in May, 1937.

This district is included in No. 4 Area of the scheme, together with Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough, Kidsgrove Urban District, Leek Urban and Rural Districts, and Cheadle Rural District. Under the scheme the Councils of these districts are to provide the necessary accommodation "either by arrangement with the Bradwell Isolation Hospital Committee, or by contracting or entering into agreements or combining in pursuance of Section 131 of the Public Health Act, 1875, or by initiating action and carrying through any proceedings that may be necessary on their part for the formation of a united district pursuant to the provisions of Sections 279 and 297 of the Public Health Act, 1875."

The minimum requirement of beds is given as 75.

At a meeting of representatives of the Councils referred to above in February, 1938, it was agreed that application should be made to the Ministry under Section 6 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for an Order with regard to the constitution of a Joint Isolation Hospital Board.

With regard to smallpox similar provision is made under the County Council scheme, and this district is included in No. 2 Area, together with the districts referred to above, with the further addition of Biddulph Urban District. The necessary accommodation is to be provided by the North Staffordshire Joint Smallpox Board, and the minimum requirement for No. 2 Area in beds is given as 30.

Some aspects of the question of isolation hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox) were fully dealt with in my Report for 1936 (pp. 38, *et seq.*).

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

At the end of the year the scheme for the provision of a mains supply in the Baldwin's Gate and Bar Hill portions of Madeley Parish was in preparation for submission to the Ministry. With the completion of this scheme the Council's existing proposals for the provision of supplies will have been carried out in every parish except Whitmore. In this parish a supply for the more populous part has been provided by the principal landowner.

The Council's consulting engineer has prepared a scheme for the provision of a supply to the village of Butterton (in Whitmore Parish), and this scheme is now under consideration by the two estates concerned. Although the number of houses in and near the village is small at present there can be no doubt that the value of these estates would be considerably enhanced by the provision of supplies.

During the year schemes have been carried out in the parishes of Ashley, Mucklestone, Tyrley and Chorlton. In the last-named parish three further minor extensions are contemplated.

The important scheme for the augmentation of the supply in Audley Parish was nearing completion by the end of the year ; the pumping station had been erected, and the electric pumping-plant was in process of being installed. It is expected that this new station will be put into commission early in 1938.

Quantity. With regard to quantity no shortage was experienced in the parts of the District supplied by mains. Before mains has been installed shortage had occurred in parts of Ashley and Chorlton Parishes, but this was not serious enough to require cartage of water to be undertaken by the Council.

Quality. Analysis of samples yielded the results shown in the following Table :—

TABLE 12.

No. of Samples	Bacteriological Analysis	Chemical Analysis
Satisfactory	8	10*
Not Satisfactory	8	6

*Subject to bacteriological confirmation of purity.

The question of polluted samples is dealt with below.

Piped Supplies. From both bacteriological and chemical stand-points the mains supply at Audley was found to be satisfactory.

Not Piped. Samples from a number of wells and pumps proved unsatisfactory both bacteriologically and chemically. In the majority of instances notices were served and it was found possible for these sources to be replaced by a supply from the main.

Samples taken from a well supplying a few cottages at Bowsey Wood, near Madeley, showed evidence of slight pollution. The question of the provision of a mains supply was considered, but as there is no such supply near, the cost was found to be high. The matter was still under consideration at the end of the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The scheme for the complete reconstruction of the disposal works at Madeley has been further considered by the District Council and by the Madeley Parish Council. Both were anxious to have the scheme carried out, but decided to await the result of representations made to the Government with regard to financial assistance for such schemes in rural parishes.

In Audley Parish similarly no progress has been made with regard to the sewerage of the remaining portion. Recent estimates made by the Council's consulting engineer for this work place the figure as high as £32,850, and there is reason to anticipate that the total cost will be even greater.

In recent years the Council has spent large sums on the provision of water supplies. This expenditure was unavoidable, and there can be no doubt that it will eventually be well repaid by improved health and well-being in the areas served. It is realised, however, that the full advantage of this provision will not be experienced if the insanitary conditions associated with primitive methods of sewage disposal are allowed to remain. It is desirable, for example, that conversion to water-carriage of privies should be made in many parts of the district, but where existing methods of sewage disposal are already barely adequate, neither this important improvement, nor that of the installation of baths, can be permitted. On the other hand it must be conceded that one urgent reason for improvement in the methods of sewage disposal in certain parts of the district, viz.: the risk of pollution of surface wells, has been eliminated as a result of the closing of these and the installation of a mains supply.

The position in Audley Parish is particularly difficult. Until 1932 the parish formed part of an urban district, and it remains very largely of an urban or semi-urban character. The closing of all the collieries but one has led to a high rate of unemployment, and there is a considerable amount of distress. The District and Parish Councils are unwilling to increase hardship by sanctioning the expenditure of the large amount of money mentioned above unless assistance is forthcoming on a generous basis, particularly as such expenditure would be non-productive of revenue. I should add that an improved system of drainage and sewerage is more urgently required here than in any other part of the District.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No special action was found necessary during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Approximate figures of conversions of privies during recent years have been as follows :—

1932	...	642	1935	...	0
1933	...	1	1936	...	8
1934	...	0	1937	...	4

Details of the numbers of each type of closet in the District are not available, as it has not been found possible to make a complete survey during the year.

As a result of the Council's schemes for clearance areas and the demolition of individual insanitary houses a considerable number of people will eventually be displaced from houses where the closet accommodation consists of dilapidated privies. This improvement has already taken place at the Alsager's Bank clearance area.

The difficulties arising in connection with the conversion of privies in parts of the District are referred to on page 17.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Arrangements were made during the year for the collection of house refuse at the village of Onneley.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

TABLE 13.

	Number of Inspect'ns	Notices served		Nuisances abated after Notice	
		Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Dwelling-houses, etc. ...	936	106	—	191	—
Bakehouses	—	—	—	—	—
Cowsheds and Dairies ...	307	53	—	21	24
Slaughterhouses... ...	519	—	—	—	—
Factories and Work- shops	76	3	—	3	—

Visits in connection with infectious disease ...	65
Houses disinfected after infectious disease ...	51

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are none in the district.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No houses were reported to be infested.

During removals from the clearance area at Alsager's Bank to the re-housing estate, household effects were treated with prussic acid gas as a routine measure. The work was carried out by a contractor.

SCHOOLS.

There is little change to record as to the sanitary condition of the Public Elementary Schools in the District. Inspection of School premises is carried out two or three times yearly by the County School Medical Staff.

At the end of the year the provision of a mains water supply at Ashley School was pending.

In several schools in the more rural parts of the District the offices are of the privy type. Emptying is satisfactorily done, however, and they are kept as clean as possible.

The measures taken in relation to the health of the scholars have been detailed in previous Reports. The procedure outlined in the Joint Memorandum of the Ministry and the Board of Education on closure of and exclusion from school, 1927, has been carefully followed. In connection with the work of prevention of epidemic disease the collaboration of Head Teachers has again proved most valuable.

The question of the prevention of the spread of infectious disease in schools is dealt with in Section F.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

TABLE 14.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	556
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose...							936
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under the sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	...	...	379
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose...							379
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	289

2. Remedy of defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	191
---	-----	-----	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	15
-----	---	----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners 7

(b) By local authority in default of owners 0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :

(a) By owners 0

(b) By local authority in default of owners 0

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made 6

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders 6

D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made 0

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 0

4. **Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding :—**

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 83

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ... 87

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 529

(b) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year 1

(c) (i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	45
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases					281
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	0

HOUSING ACT, 1930.

CLEARANCE AND DEMOLITION ORDERS.

Section 1. Clearance Orders.

In September, 1937, the thirty-two houses at the Council's re-housing site at Apedale Avenue, Alsager's Bank, were completed, and in October removals from the Alsager's Bank clearance area (No. 1) took place. Household effects were treated with prussic acid gas during removal.

The new houses were built at an all-in cost of £406 per house. Their density per acre is eight, and the number of persons per acre is approximately thirty-five. The corresponding figures for the area cleared were thirty-three houses and 154 persons per acre.

Conditions in the area cleared were very far from satisfactory, and the displacement of 139 persons from slum conditions to modern houses on a highly desirable site of attractive layout has effected a great improvement.

Clearance areas Nos. 2 to 6 (detailed on page 23 of my Annual Report for 1936) were duly confirmed by the Minister early in 1937. For the reason given under "Rehousing" on page 26, it was unfortunately not found possible during the year to proceed with re-housing operations in connection with these areas.

Section 19. Individual Insanitary Houses.

For the reason referred to above action had to be delayed in connection with the two demolition orders made in 1936, and there also remains a number of houses in respect of which Orders are still outstanding from previous years.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

CLEARANCE AND DEMOLITION ORDERS.

Section 25. Clearance Orders.

The Clearance Orders detailed below were made during the year, and a Local Inquiry was duly held in November. Confirmation by the Ministry was being awaited at the end of the year.

Date of Representation	Clearance Order	Houses included in Clearance Area
7/6/37	{ No. 7 High Street, Halmerend { No. 8 The Rookery, Chapel Chorlton { No. 9 High Street, Alsagers Bank { No. 10 Old Road, Wrinehill, Betley { No. 11 High Street, Halmerend	Nos. 59, 61 and 63 4 dwelling-houses Nos. 133a, 135a, 137a Ivy Cottage 4 dwelling-houses Nos. 189, 191, 193, 195
7/7/37	{ No. 12 Shraley Brook Road, Halmerend ... { No. 13 Aston, Maer ... { No. 14 High Street, Halmerend { No. 15 Leycett Road, Scot Hay	3 dwelling-houses Nos. 193, 194, 195 Nos. 15 and 17 Nos. 130 and 132
3/8/37	{ No. 16 Charnes Road, Ashley { No. 17 Boon Hill, Audley	Nos. 56, 57, 58 Nos. 27, 29, 31, 33
16/8/37	No. 18 Knowle Bank Road, Shraley Brook, Halmerend	2 dwelling-houses

Subsequent to a representation of a further Clearance Area, No. 19, in respect of Nos. 37 and 41 Raven's Lane, Audley, of 27th October, 1937, an Order was made by the Council in January, 1938.

Section II. Individual Insanitary Houses.

Representations were made to the Council with regard to six such houses during the year, and these were followed by demolition orders in each case.

Six houses were demolished in pursuance of demolition orders.

RECONDITIONING.

The Authority under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts is the County Council. Through the courtesy of officials of that Authority I am enabled to give the following particulars of applications under the Acts that were dealt with during 1937.

Parish			No. of Houses dealt with	Amount of Grant made	
					£
Betley	...	...	I	...	100
"	...	...	I	...	100
Tyrley	...		I	...	100
"	...	...	I	...	100

HOUSING ACT, 1935.

OVERCROWDING.

The estimated requirements of the District were fully detailed in my Annual Report for 1936 (pp. 24 *et seq.*). With regard to the position at the end of 1937, a complete fresh survey would be necessary if accurate figures were to be obtained, and this has not been possible. The statistics given on pages 22 and 23 must therefore be regarded as only approximate.

For the reasons given on page 26 the Council's proposals for new building for the relief of overcrowding do not cover the whole District. An estimate of new houses required in six parishes is detailed in Table 16 (page 27), and if the total figure (36) of the provisional proposals is deducted from the number of houses given in the Council's estimate made in November, 1936 (59), it will be seen that on this basis proposals for a further 23 houses will still be necessary.

REHOUSING.

A provisional programme for a re-housing scheme in connection with clearance areas, individual insanitary houses, and overcrowding was drawn up in November, 1937, and these proposals, together with plans of the several types of houses, were duly sub-

mitted in the prescribed form to the Ministry. The scheme was approved generally, subject to reasonable tendering.

Mainly on account of difficulties in connection with the finding and acquisition of sites in several parishes, it had not been found possible by the end of the year to frame proposals for the whole District.

Some particulars of the proposals are given in Tables 15 and 16 below, together with figures of the estimated average rents.

TABLE 15.

REHOUSING PROPOSALS IN CONNECTION WITH SLUM
CLEARANCE, AND THE DEMOLITION OF INDIVIDUAL
INSANITARY HOUSES.

Parish and Site	Proposed Houses		No. of persons to be housed	Estimated total cost per house (including land, roads, sewers, etc.)
	* Type	No. of each Type		
AUDLEY :				
Halmerend ...	Bungalows	4	8	£324
	" A "	14	70	£436
	" B "	2	12	£470
Wereton ...	Bungalows	3	6	£325
Meg Acre ...	" A "	4	20	£423
	" B "	1	6	£457
BETLEY ...	" A "	4	20	£419
TYRLEY :				
Four Alls ...	" A "	3	15	£435
MUCCLESTONE :				
Napley ...	" A "	2	10	£407
ASHLEY ...	" A "	4	20	£433
MAER :				
Aston ...	" A "	2	10	£407
	" B "	1	6	£441
TOTALS ...		44	203	£18,257

Estimated rents required to restrict contributions from Rates to the liability imposed by the Housing Act :—

Non-Agricultural Parish (Audley) ...	4/11 per house per week
Agricultural Parish ...	... 4/10 „ „ „
	(Both exclusive of Rates)

*See Note below Table 16.

TABLE 16.
REHOUSING PROPOSALS IN CONNECTION WITH RELIEF
OF OVERCROWDING.

Parish and Site	Proposed Houses		No. of persons to be housed	Estimated total cost per house (including land, roads, sewers, etc.)
	* Type	No. of each Type		
AUDLEY :				
Halmerend	...	"B" "C"	4 2	24 14
Wereton	...	"A" "B" "C" "D" "E" Bungalow	2 2 2 2 2 1	10 12 14 16 18 2
Meg Acre	...	"C" "D" Bungalows	1 4 2	7 32 4
BETLEY	...	"B" "D"	1 1	6 8
TYRLEY :				
Four Alls	...	"B"	2	12
MUCCLESTONE :				
Napley	...	"B"	3	18
ASHLEY	...	"B" "C"	1 3	6 21
MAER :				
Aston	...	"C"	1	7
TOTALS	...		36	£17,026

Estimated rents required to restrict contributions from Rates to liability imposed by the Housing Act:

	With (max.) grants	Without grants
Non-Agricultural Parish (Audley) ...	8/2	9/7
Agricultural Parish	6/1	2/5

Non-Agricultural Parish (Audley)	...	8/2	9/7
Agricultural Parish	...	6/4	9/1
"T" "A" "B" & "C" persons			

*Types :— “A” 5 persons, “B” 6 persons, “C” 7 persons,
“D” 8 persons, “E” 9 persons.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

During the year 307 inspections of cowsheds and dairies were made in the district. Owing to the continued increase in the amount of general work falling to the staff of the Sanitary Inspector's department, it has not been found possible to carry out routine inspections on an adequate scale, and the number of inspections falls considerably below that for 1936.

Defects were discovered at premises in 77 instances, and in consequence 53 informal notices were served. During the year 21 such notices were complied with. No formal notices were served, but 24 such notices outstanding from 1936 were complied with.

Remodelling of a number of premises was carried out, a large proportion of these being on the Keele Estate.

Samples for the detection of tubercle bacilli and for the estimation of cleanliness generally are taken by a County Council Inspector. In Table 17 the results of examination in recent years are shown, and the corresponding figures for the County as a whole are included for purposes of comparison. (Figures for 1937 are not yet available.)

TABLE 17.

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION OF SAMPLES OF MILK.

	No. of Samples examined	Cleanliness not satisfactory	T.B. found
YEAR 1932			
Newcastle R.D. ...	42	29.0%	2.3%
Staffs. County ...	—	25.0%	11.9%
YEAR 1933			
Newcastle R.D. ...	71	18.0%	12.7%
Staffs. County ...	—	24.0%	10.0%
YEAR 1934...			
Newcastle R.D. ...	46	19.6%	6.5%
Staffs. County ...	—	24.6%	9.0%
YEAR 1935			
Newcastle R.D. ...	66	15.0%	7.6%
Staffs. County ...	—	13.0%	10.0%
YEAR 1936			
Newcastle R.D. ...	73	12.0%	5.5%
Staffs. County ...	—	15.0%	7.7%

It will be noted that the percentages of dirty milk show a further decrease.

The percentages of milk containing tubercle bacilli remain regrettably high. The increased amount of inspection undertaken by County Council Veterinary Inspectors is bound to cause an improvement in these percentages, but it has been pointed out by the County Medical Officer of Health in his Annual Report that no appreciable reduction in the number of cases of tuberculous mastitis (a common cause of the presence of tubercle bacilli in milk) is likely to occur until routine inspections have been carried out for a period of from three to five years.

The recent extension of public water supplies to many farms in the District is a factor of the highest importance. Cleansing of shippings and of milk vessels, etc., has been greatly facilitated in many cases. The provision of a pure supply of water for drinking is certain also to result in an improvement in the health and well-being of dairy cattle. With such a supply there is a reduced risk of the infections of cattle by certain diseases, and the cost of the water may in many cases be well repaid by a reduction of losses from these diseases.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

During the year 519 visits were paid to slaughter-houses and meat shops in the District, and 2,827 carcases were inspected. Ante-mortem inspection is seldom possible in a district where slaughterhouses are so widely scattered, and an increase in the staff of the Sanitary Inspector's department would be necessary if this were to be done as a routine procedure.

No defects were discovered at the premises inspected.

Particulars of the results of inspection are given in Table 18.

TABLE 18.
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	Not known				
Number inspected	44	448	7	1417	911
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS—					
Whole Carcasses condemned...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	9	45	—	60	22
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	20	10	—	4	2
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY—					
Whole Carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	6	95	—	—	48
Percentage of the number affected with Tuberculosis	14	21	—	—	5

NUTRITION.

With regard to the Ministry's inquiry whether any steps have been taken to increase the knowledge of the public on this subject and bring to their minds the importance of adequate nutrition, especially for children, by means of lectures, films, etc., no special action was taken by this department.

In a district so scattered it is difficult to make economic use of the methods mentioned. In my capacity of Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and Officer-in-charge of three ante-natal centres, infant welfare centres, and school clinics, I have, however, taken full advantage of my opportunities for individual consultations with expectant mothers and parents of children of all ages, and consider that where the need for instruction is greatest (viz. : among the less well-educated mothers) the constant repetition of sound principles and discussion of details are likely to be of greater value under local circumstances than lectures.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR 1937.

TABLE 19.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	49	40	1
Diphtheria	7	7	0
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0	0
Pneumonia	21	?	5
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	6	0	0
Erysipelas	10	0	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	1	1	0

TABLE 20.
ANALYSIS BY AGE-GROUPS OF CASES INCLUDED IN TABLE 19.

Age Period	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Pneumonia*		Erysipelas	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Under 1 year
1 , , ,	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 years	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
3 , ,	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 , , ,	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 , ,	...	19	...	1	...	1	...	...
10 , ,	...	15	1	3	...	...	...	...
15 , ,	...	4	...	2	...	1	...	1
20 , ,	...	3	...	1	...	2	...	1
35 , ,	4	1	2
45 , ,	9	2	1
65 , , & over	3	2	5
TOTAL—	...	49	1	7	0	21	5	10
								1

*Notifiable cases only.

TABLE 20.—Continued.

	No. of Cases	Ages	No. of Deaths	Ages at Death
Puerperal Fever	...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	1	26	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	28	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	...	—	—	—

TABLE 21.
SHOWING THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE COMMONER NOTIFIABLE
INFECTIOUS DISEASES BY PARISHES.
The Attack Rates per 1,000 living are given in brackets*.

		Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia†	
Ashley	...	—	—	—	—
Audley	...	13 (1.5)	3 (0.4)	4 (0.5)	
Balterley	...	—	—	—	—
Betley	...	4 (5.7)	1 (1.4)	1 (1.4)	
Chorlton	...	1 (2.8)	—	2 (5.5)	
Keele	...	2 (4.5)	—	1 (2.2)	
Madeley	...	18 (6.3)	1 (0.4)	9 (3.2)	
Maer	...	2 (2.3)	1 (1.7)	1 (1.7)	
Mucklestone		2 (4.3)	—	2 (4.3)	
Tyrley	...	2 (1.8)	—	—	
Whitmore		5 (9.4)	1 (1.9)	1 (1.9)	
TOTALS	...	49 (3.3)	7 (0.4)	21 (1.2)	

*See Note on page 8.

†Notifiable cases only.

TABLE 22.
COMPARISON OF THE RATES OF INCIDENCE OF CERTAIN INFECTIOUS
DISEASES (PER 1,000 POPULATION) IN THE DISTRICT WITH THOSE
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES IN RECENT YEARS.

		Small-pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever*	Puerperal Pyrexia*
1933	England and Wales	0.02	3.21	1.18	0.45	0.04	3.50	9.60
	Newcastle R.D.	0.00	0.71	0.24	0.24	0.00	4.20	4.20
1934	England and Wales	0.004	3.76	1.70	0.51	0.03	4.00	9.60
	Newcastle R.D.	0.00	2.88	0.59	0.12	0.00	4.40	13.20
1935	England and Wales	—	2.96	1.60	0.42	0.04	3.60	9.44
	Newcastle R.D.	—	2.17	0.84	0.48	—	—	8.40
1936	England and Wales	0.00	2.53	1.39	0.40	0.06	3.27	9.64
	Newcastle R.D.	0.00	1.03	0.61	0.49	0.06	0.00	4.65
1937	England and Wales	0.00	2.33	1.49	0.37	0.05	—	13.93
	Newcastle R.D.	0.00	3.02	0.43	0.62	0.00	—	4.27

*The Rates for these diseases represent the incidence per 1,000 births registered, i.e., live and still births.

GENERAL.

Isolation hospital accommodation is referred to on page 14.

With regard to the diseases notifiable under the Regulations of October, 1927, particulars of the incidence etc. of pneumonia are given on pages 33, 34, 36 and 37. No cases of malaria or dysentery were notified.

The question of the selection of individual cases for admission to hospital was fully discussed in my Report for 1936, and there is no change to record.

School intimations have again proved of great value.

Particulars of the incidence, etc. of infectious diseases, and of action taken are given below.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

SCARLET FEVER.

The type of this disease has continued to be mild, but there has been a considerable increase in the number of cases notified. In Table 22 comparison of the incidence in the district has been made with that of England and Wales as a whole. Table 21 shows that the majority of the cases occurred in the parishes of Audley and Madeley. The highest incidence per 1,000 living was in the parish of Whitmore, but this is probably fortuitous as the population in this parish is small.

In December there was a marked increase in the number of cases in Madeley parish, and it was thought advisable to close Madeley Endowed Schools from the 20th to the Christmas holidays, as a number of the children in attendance live on premises where milk is produced. Several of the larger of these premises are at a distance from the village, and it was considered that by closing the school these children would not be so likely to mix with other children in the early stages of the disease, and that the risk of a wide-spread epidemic through the medium of milk would thus be minimised. By the end of January no further cases were notified from this part of the district.

Four "return" cases came to knowledge. There was one death.

DIPHTHERIA.

A further slight fall has occurred in the incidence of this disease. The cases were sporadic in nature, and there were no deaths.

PNEUMONIA.

Of the twenty-one cases that were notified twelve were said to be of the influenzal type. There were five deaths of notified cases.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

The one case notified was diagnosed on the chemical characteristics of the cerebro-spinal fluid, which was sterile. The source of infection was not traced. Recovery took place.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

MEASLES.

A considerable number of cases was reported from Wood Lane in March, and a few from Raven's Lane and Audley in May. There were no deaths.

WHOOPING COUGH.

The most marked incidences were at Onneley in February and March, Audley in September, and Hales in November and December. There were also a few cases at Raven's Lane and Halmerend in June and July. Onneley School was closed from the 12th to the 24th of March. One death occurred.

CHICKENPOX.

A large number of cases was reported from Leycett in May, and the epidemic continued, although with less intensity, into June and July. A few cases occurred at Alsager's Bank in May and June.

INFLUENZA.

Since this disease is not notifiable it is not possible to assess its incidence, but it is evident from the reports of Head Teachers of the elementary schools that practically the whole district suffered severely in January and February. Leaflets advising the precautions to be taken were taken home by school children (through the courtesy of the County Education Committee). The number of deaths registered during the year was 15.

With regard to the complications of the disease, twelve cases of influenzal pneumonia were notified of which 3 proved fatal. This heavy incidence of pneumonia affords further evidence of the severity and wide extent of the epidemic. Analysis of the incidence by ages of the cases of pneumonia notified shows that the youngest case was 33 years old, and that the average age of those attacked was 53 years.

The following elementary schools were closed for periods of about a week in January and February : Madeley Endowed, Madeley Heath, Maer Parochial, Leycett, Mucklestone, Aston, Wood Lane, Alsager's Bank, Knighton, Chapel Chorlton, Ashley, Hales, and Whitmore.

LABORATORY WORK.

Seventy-three specimens of sputum were examined and of these ten were positive and 63 negative. Three (negative) discharges were examined for tubercle bacilli.

Of 81 nose and throat swabs examined for diphtheria bacilli four were positive and 77 negative.

Two (negative) specimens of cerebro-spinal fluid were examined for meningococci. One case of cerebro-spinal fever was diagnosed on the chemical characteristics of the fluid.

TUBERCULOSIS.

TABLE 23.
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

Age Periods ...	New cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0	I	...	...	I
1
5	I	2	2	...	...	...	...
15	I	...	I	...	...	...
25	3	I	...	...	I	...
35	I	...	...	...	I	2	...
45	2	...	...	...	I	...	...
55	I	...	...
65 and upwards
TOTAL-	...	4	6	3	2	3	3	I
Non-notified Tuberculosis Deaths					I
Ratio to total Tuberculosis Deaths					I : 8

Table 24 shows the numbers of cases on the Tuberculosis Register for the District as at the end of the last four years.

TABLE 24*

Year	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1933 ...	42	50	39	26
1934 ...	42	56	37	29
1935 ...	37	53	36	26
1936 ...	46	54	41	26
1937 ...	45	54	41	27

*NOTE.—Owing to the readjustment of the boundaries of the district in 1932, comparable figures are not available for previous years.

Table 25 shows the numbers of new cases, and the numbers of deaths, by category and sex, for the years 1933 to 1937.

TABLE 25*

Year	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1933	11	11	2	3	4	1	—	—
1934	7	10	2	2	4	2	3	—
1935	1	3	4	4	1	5	0	1
1936	8	3	5	1	0	1	0	0
1937	4	6	3	2	3	3	1	1

*See Note to Table 24.

Table 26 gives the numbers of new *pulmonary* cases, by sexes, and the corresponding incidence of new *pulmonary* cases per 1,000 living for the years 1933 to 1937.

TABLE 26*

Year	New Pulmonary cases notified		Total incidence in both sexes (Pulmonary only)
	M	F	
1933	11	11	1.3
1934	7	10	1.0
1935	1	3	0.24
1936	8	3	0.67
1937	4	6	0.62

*See Note to Table 24.

Table 27 gives the numbers of *pulmonary* deaths by sexes, and the corresponding Phthisis Death Rate (viz. : the number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis per 1,000 living) for the years 1933 to 1937.

TABLE 27*

Year	Deaths of Pulmonary Cases		Phthisis Death Rate
	M	F	
1933 ...	4	1	0.30
1934 ...	4	2	0.36
1935 ...	1	5	0.36
1936 ...	0	1	0.06
1937 ...	3	3	0.37

*See Note to Table 24

Notification of cases of tuberculosis generally seems to have been efficient.

There is no evidence that any particular occupation has an influence on the incidence of the disease.

MATERNITY AND INFANT WELFARE WORK IN NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME
RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1937.

Health Visitors.

TABLE 28.

Area	FIRST VISITS			RE-VISITS			TOTAL VISITS			No. of cases of insanitary con- ditions reported to M.O.H.
	Expectant Mothers	Children		Expectant Mothers	Children		Expectant Mothers	Children		
	Under 1 yr.	Between 1 & 5 years		Under 1 yr.	Between & 5 years		Under 1 yr.	Between & 5 yrs.		
Part of Halmerend, etc., Madeley, Betley, Balterley, Keele ...	32	86	10	36	639	1613	68	725	1623	6
Whitmore, etc. ...	10	10	22	24	55	165	34	65	187	—
*Ashley Heath, etc. ...	2	5	2	10	22	52	12	27	54	—
Hales, Blore Heath, Mucklestone, Tyrley	—	25	5	—	145	435	—	170	440	—
Maer, Ashley, Chorlton	14	20	1	24	156	292	38	176	293	—
Part of Halmerend, etc., Audley, Bignall End...	10	61	4	23	580	1376	33	641	1380	10
TOTALS	68	207	44	117	1597	3933	185	1804	3977	16

*District divided between two other districts at the end of May.

TABLE 29.
WELFARE CENTRES.

Area	Number of Sessions during year	Total Number of Attendances			No. of Cases examined by Doctor
		Expectant Mothers	Children Under 1 year	Between 1 & 5 years	
Madeley ...	50	1	577	866	720
Audley ...	48	1	738	857	563
Halmerend ...	51	20	336	442	441
TOTALS ...	149	22	1651	2165	1724

TABLE 30.
ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901, IN CONNECTION WITH FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

(I) Inspection of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces, including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	21	3	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	44	—	—
Workplaces (other than Out-workers' premises) ...	11	—	—
TOTAL	76	3	—

(2) Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars	Number of Defects		
	Found	Remedied	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :			
Want of Cleanliness ...	...	...	—
Want of Ventilation ...	...	...	—
Other nuisances ...	...	...	I
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation	2	2	
TOTAL	...	...	3

No cases were referred to H.M. Inspector and no prosecutions were instituted.

TABLE 31.
CAUSES OF DEATH.

IN NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME RURAL DISTRICT, 1937.

							M	F
All causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	110	111
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
2. Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
3. Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
4. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
5. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
6. Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	8
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
8. Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
10. Other Tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
11. Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tables Dorsalis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
13. Cancer, Malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	18
14. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	2
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
16. Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	27
17. Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
18. Other Circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	3
19. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5
21. Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
22. Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
23. Diarrhoea, etc. (under two years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
24. Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
26. Other diseases of Liver, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	2
27. Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5
29. Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
30. Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	2
31. Congenital Debility	}	}	}	}	}	}	3	4
Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.								
32. Senility	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	8
33. Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
34. Other violence	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	2

					M	F
35.	Other defined diseases	...	...	...	9	II
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	0	0
Special causes (included in No. 35 above)—						
	Smallpox	...	...	...	0	0
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	0	0
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	0	0

The figures given in Table 31 are those supplied by the Registrar-General, who states that the classification of some deaths is modified in the light of fuller information obtained from the certifying practitioner in response to special inquiries.

This possible source of discrepancy between the figures given in Table 31 and those in the body of the Report must be borne in mind with regard to the causes of death.
